



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER

Vol. VII.—No. 3.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1885.

Per Annum, Four Dollars.  
Single Copies, 35 Cents.

Copyright, 1885, by THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER COMPANY.  
All rights reserved.

Entered at the New York Post Office as Second-class Mail Matter.

## The Decorator and Furnisher.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER COMPANY.

JAMES A. ROBINSON, President and Treas.

J. M. BOKEE, Secretary.

A. CURTIS BOND, Editor.

Office, Nos. 30 & 32 East Fourteenth Street, New York.

Address all communications to

The Decorator and Furnisher Co.,

30 & 32 East Fourteenth Street, New York City.

Subscription, \$4.00 per Year, in advance.

(Patent Binder, 40 cents extra.)

Single Numbers.....35 Cents.

English and French Subscribers supplied through our Agencies.

LONDON AGENCY,

THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS COMPANY, 11 BOUYERIE ST. (FLEET ST.)

PARIS AGENCY, Vn MOREL & Co.

### ADVERTISING TERMS.

Single Insertion, \$3.00 per inch; Twelve Insertions, \$25.00 per inch.  
Terms for larger spaces made known on application.

No advertisement (or "puff") will be inserted in the Editorial or Reading matter, at any price. Parties having new designs may have them displayed, free of charge, if worthy of special notice.

Designs and Articles submitted for publication, will be returned, if not accepted.

Correspondents will please give their full address in each communication.

We will not undertake to Classify any Advertisement received later than the 10th of the Month.

CHECKS, POSTAL ORDERS, ETC., ETC., IN PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADVERTISEMENTS, SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE COMPANY.

OUR AUTHORIZED COLLECTORS ARE PROVIDED WITH WRITTEN AUTHORITY, NONE OTHERS ARE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE MONEY OR GIVE RECEIPT FOR US.

It is unfortunate that American goods, manufactured in America, cannot be sold here as well without attaching to them the stigma of some foreign source. We were told by the manufacturer of a certain line of goods, recently, that their large sales to the retail houses in this city, and, in fact, throughout this country, was conditional upon secrecy as to the origin of the article in question. The retail house is thus enabled to sell the goods as imported, representing them as from England, France, almost any country excepting our own.

The double injustice of this is apparent, it tends to discourage our home manufacture and is calculated to destroy the ambition of home talent. It is probably caused by two unfortunate phases of our national character, a distrust of our own productions in the particular line filled by these goods we are considering, and a remarkably unreasonable Anglo-mania.

THIS disposition on the part of a certain element in society, and especially in the purchasing portion of it, is encouraged by our tradesmen; whether it be through a desire to belittle our productions or simply to cater to the ignorant prejudices of their customers, it is difficult to say. Why, for instance, should we have been told recently by a man who makes his goods here (makes them in strict imitation of foreign goods of the same character) that it was impossible to find a clock in this country that would keep time or even run for any considerable period, and then looking us square in the eye as though that insured our belief, he observed that when they made an imitation grandfather's clock, coat-of-arms and all of some old German family, they sent to the fatherland for the works. This fable or fact, as anyone chooses to accept it, opens the way to an additional charge and it is an indisputable fact that the great American public will willingly pay \$400 for the case and works, if it is veneered with such a tale as this, when an acknowledged, Simon pure, *bona fide* New England clock of the same size, build, and infinitely handsomer in finish, sells for \$200 or less. This latter price is considerably nearer the value of both.

THE fact is, the people are burdened with an anxiety to have antiques, or the representations of antiques, and they are talked to and lectured upon every conceivable scheme of house decoration that has been thought of from the time of the Egyptians down to the present. With the changes of the moon some new teacher comes to the surface, hires a hall, reads up what his predecessors have said, and then says the same thing, or, feeling that he should give a little variety to his entertainment, says something exactly contrary. There is a lecturer now giving his views on what a home should be, and some of his best paragraphs will be found on another page, and not only will they be found but most of them will be recognized as old advice; one in particular was introduced to us by some early writer whose name has escaped us, possibly it was Vitruvius, he was about as far back as we care to go; then it was taken up by Eastlake, and Mrs. Haweis had something to say on it, then Mr. Edis adopted it, and Clarence Cook and Mrs. Spofford both echoed the same idea; Oscar Wilde put his endorsement on it and it has periodically been urged by all the publications of the day. It has now become monotonous, but we find it served up as though it were a dainty spring bit, while it retains the dressing that old and forgotten writer originally gave it. It is rather difficult for a well-intentioned seeker after the beautiful to know exactly what to do after he has attended a few lectures on the subject.

WE have received the following letter, which may be taken as the reader's idea of art and consistency may suggest. It would be well, however, in considering it, to bear in mind that the Egyptians and in all probability the Greeks painted their stone work liberally:

Sir: It has occurred to me that after the manipulators on the Egyptian Obelisk, in Central Park, get through their task of trying to prevent desecration by applying ingredients which the stone is partly to absorb, it would be well to paint it all over,

and this not only as a further means of protection—for paint has a binding quality—but for ornament. I do not mean a coat of self color, but that the incised symbols and lettering should be coated in several colors, and the plain surfaces in one color. The hieroglyphics would then become plainly visible, the hard geometric form of the obelisk would be relieved; in short, it would become more attractive. There are those who would cry out at this as desecration, but there is nothing sacred in the stone. The Egyptians, themselves, painted their stone temples and sepulchral monuments. Yours, T. R. B.

IF our readers will read our offer of premiums as given on our back cover, they will find an inducement to influence their friends to send us their subscription. In making up these premiums we have selected articles that would be practically useful in the home, articles that enter into the furnishing or the decorating of the house; the books and music of the average premium list are of course included, but we realize that our readers are directly interested in beautifying their homes and we want to help them in the substantial manner of providing them with the means and materials with which to carry out their ideas of home adornment.

In addition, likewise, to this immediate and tangible return for the time and labor expended in procuring a few subscribers for us, there is the indirect advantage to every reader of our paper in its increased circulation; naturally the larger the circulation the more valuable and interesting can the contents of the paper be made. We trust this idea will appeal to our readers forcibly.

DURING the month of January there is to be an exhibition of architectural drawings to be held in connection with the Eighth Annual Exhibition of the Salmagundi Club, at the American Art Galleries, this city. Drawings will be received at the Galleries from Thursday, the 31st of December, to Saturday the 2d of January, inclusive. They must be sent at the expense and at the risk of the contributors. They must either be in frames or mounted on stretchers, with proper borders or mats. All those from out of town to be sent at any time before the 31st of December to Louis R. Menger, 35 Dey Street, who, for a nominal charge, will see that they are forwarded to the galleries in due season. He will also provide frames and stretchers for drawings sent to him unmounted, at a reasonable price, and will return the drawings to the owners, mounted or unmounted, as may be desired.

There is to be a room of foreign works, one of government and other public buildings, and drawings loaned by the principal publishing houses, also a loan exhibit of casts from the antique.

THERE was a very interesting lecture on Etching, delivered by S. R. Koehler, at the Gotham Art Students' Rooms, on Friday evening, Nov. 27.

WE neglected in our November issue to credit the page of Japanese stencils there given. We were indebted to Mr. Edward Greey for them and he received them direct from Japan.

THE binders for our journal are nearly ready, and those of our subscribers who have ordered them will receive them very shortly.